

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT:

This report pertains to an investigation of the identification of the burial location, or headstone markings, of a member of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) during the Great War 1914-1921.

SUBMITTED TO:

[CWGC Canadian Agency](#)

66 Slater Street

Suite 1707

Ottawa Ontario Canada K1A 0P4

Att: [Dominique Boulais](#)

Report Date: 22 March 2015

Reason for Submission: ("X" means purpose of the report)

Casualty Identification:		Burial Information:	
Confirmed Identity	X	Burial Location Identified	X
Most Probable Identity		Grave Stone Correction	X
Questionable Identity		Grave Records Correction	X
Incorrect Identity		Request for CWGC Details	
Other		Other	

Supporting Documents: (# refers to attachment number; "I" information provided)

Casualty Identification:		Burial Information:	
Ledingham, George Herbert	i	Canada Cemetery	link
43 rd Battalion	i	Tilloy-les-Cambrai, France	I
Corporal #859287	i	Plot 2 Row C Grave 23	I
Date of Death 1/10/1918	link	Date of Burial / Exhumation	
Attestation Papers	link	Cemetery Schematic	link
Service Record		Graves Registration Report	5
Circumstance of Casualty	1	Concentration of Grave	
CEF Canada Register		Headstone Register	
War Diary Extract(s)	2	Casualty Spreadsheet	
Area Map(s)	3	Trench Map Exhumation	
Trench Map(s)		Grave Stone Photograph	
Possible Candidates List	4	Grave Stone Inscription	
Excluded Candidates List		Memorial Inscription/Photo	
Other		Reporting and Review	6

Summary of Findings:

The "Graves Registration Report Form" for Canada Cemetery Tilloy-les-Cambrai for Plot 2 Row C Grave 32 lists an UNKNOWN CORPORAL of the 43rd Battalion, Canadian Infantry who was killed in action of October 1, 1918.

Corporal George Herbert Ledingham was the only Corporal of the 43rd Battalion killed on that date that is listed as an unknown on the Vimy Memorial.

Details of Findings:

The findings are conclusive that the remains in Plot 2 Row C Grave 32 are those of Corporal George Herbert Ledingham of the 43rd Battalion, Canadian Infantry. The findings are based on the following:

1. The “Circumstance of Death” file reports that Corporal Ledingham was killed in action during operations southwest of Ramillies when he was shot through the head by an enemy bullet and killed about noon on 1st October 1918 (Attachment #1).
2. The 43rd Canadian Infantry Battalion had crossed through Tilloy and was southwest of Ramillies near Morenchies Wood (Attachment #2). That matches exactly what is on the Circumstance of Death report.
3. The operations of the 43rd Infantry Battalion as described in the War Diary Extract is depicted in area maps of the battle at that time, all of which are in agreement (Attachment #3).
4. The records of the CWGC show that there are nine (9) unidentified Corporals of the 43rd Infantry Battalion with unknown graves, as listed on the Vimy Memorial (Attachment #4). Of these, only two (2) were killed in 1918 and of those only Corporal Ledingham was killed in the action of September-October 1918. [Corporal Craigen](#) was killed in the Battle of Amiens some 64 km to the south of Ramilles, almost 2 months earlier.
5. The “Graves Registration Report Form” lists the remains in Plot 2 Row C Grave 32 to be those of a Corporal of the 43rd Battalion Canadian Infantry killed on October 1, 1918 (Attachment #5). Corporal Ledingham is the only soldier of the Canadian Expeditionary Force that matches that exact description by date and location.

Action Required:

The “Investigative Report” has been prepared in accordance with the procedures and criteria set out by the CWGC, should they wish to make any changes to the commemoration details (Attachment #6).

It is our belief that the investigate report on the unknown soldier in Plot 2 Row C Grave 32 at the Canada Cemetery in Tilloy-les-Cambrai, France is conclusive. It is suggested that the headstone and grave records of the CWGC be amended to show that the remains in that grave are those of Corporal George Herbert Ledingham of the 43rd Canadian Infantry Battalion killed in action of October 1, 1918.

ATTACHMENT #1

1. NO.	2. RANK OR RATING	3. SURNAME	4. CHRISTIAN NAMES
859287,	Corporal,	LEDINGHAM,	George Herbert,
5. UNIT OR SHIP	6. DATE OF CASUALTY	7. H.Q. FILE NO.	8. RELIGION
43rd Battalion.	1-10-18.	649-L-18960.	Presbyterian.
9. CIRCUMSTANCES OF CASUALTY		10. NAME, RELATIONSHIP AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN	
<p>"Killed in Action."</p> <p>During operations South West of Hamillies he was shot through the head by an enemy bullet and killed about noon of 1st October, 1918.</p>			
11. LOCATION OF UNIT AT TIME OF CASUALTY			
NOTE:—Items 12, 13 and 14 are not to be completed until grave is permanently located.			
12. CEMETERY	13. LOCATION OF CEMETERY	14. GRAVE LOCATION	15. REGISTERED NO. OF GRAVE
		Grave.....	
		Plot.....	
		Row.....	
16. PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE TAKEN	17. EXPOSURE NO.	18. PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE AND CEMETERY SUPPLIED TO	
19. FURTHER PARTICULARS ON REVERSE SIDE OF SHEET.			

M. P. W. 2648
H. Q. 1772-20-1458
188m.-12-10
I. I. 74913-34; and I. D. 10002

MEB.

ATTACHMENT #2

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(*Ense heading not required.*)

Army Form C. 2118.
43rd Canadian Battalion.
Cameron Highlanders of Canada.
OCT 1918.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs. Part II, F and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.


Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
CAMERAI Ref. 576 N.E. 20,000. 51 A. S.W. 30,000.	1.	00.30	Bde Operation Order No. 2028 received for the attack on the morning of the 1st. This operation order in so far as the 43rd Cdn. Bn. is concerned does not correspond in some particulars with the verbal orders given on the basis of which the attack was launched. The C.O. went forward and opened with Intelligence and Scout Officers an advanced H.Q. at 5.20.0.3.2.	
		04.00	Battalion jumped off.	
		05.00	Company Commanders in the attack:- A. Coy. - Lieut. Thomson. B. Coy. - Lieut. McIntosh. C. Coy. - Lieut. Jackson. D. Coy. - Capt. Smart, M.O.	
		10.00.	Report from Lieut. Scott, M.O. Coy. that he was holding a position at approximately 5.22.0.0.50 with remainder of 3 and 4 platoons - about 15 men -; that 10th Coy had passed through and said to be 600 yards in advance and in need of reinforcements.	
		10.30	Report from Lieut. W.A. SMITH, M.O. Bde, 3rd C.M.G. Bn., timed 9.45am that he was moving forward with 5 guns to 5.22.0.0.50. - to support the left flank in the event of a counter-attack.	
		11.15.	Instructions from G.O.C. to C.O. to keep artillery pushing forward, get in touch with 22nd Bn., and if necessary take hold of the 116th Bn., as the C.O. of that Battalion had been wounded.	
		11.30.	Report from C.O. 1st Coy timed 10.45 that he was holding trench system in 5.22.D. with 12 men including 4 of the 22nd and one L.G., the system of fortified shell holes between 5.22.A. and 5.16.C. occupied by Canadian troops - units unknown. - Reconnaissance prevented by heavy M.G. fire from MORENOHIES WOOD and sniping from the Canal.	
		11.45	Report from C.O. 1st Coy timed 11.00 that his Coy badly disorganized was holding a position in rear of road through 5.23.A. that he had been unable to move down the road owing to M.G. fire from front and both flanks.	
		12.45	Report from C.O. 2nd Coy timed 12.05 that the ridge 75 contour was held from 5.22.A to 5.1740. elements of our Coys. scattered over it mixed with groups of men from other units of the Bde. he had such men as he had been able to gather in the practice trench at 5.22.0.8.6. with 3rd Bn. M.G. in position; heavy Machine Gun fire from MORENOHIES WOOD and from RAILLIES; hostile artillery also very active.	
			Bn. H.Q. moved up and joined the C.O. at 5.26.A.6.5. Counter attack reported to have taken place against the Division on our left.	

T2134. Wt. W708-776. 200000. 415. 8th J. C. E. S.

ATTACHMENT #3



ATTACHMENT #4

▲	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Name	Rank	Service Number	Date of Death	Age	Regiment / Service	Service Country	Grave / Memorial Reference	Cemetery / Memorial Name	Docs.
ALLAN, JOHN	Corporal	71237	21/09/1918	22	Canadian Infantry	Canadian		VIMY MEMORIAL	
BLACKMAN, HERBERT HENRY	Corporal	153140	08/10/1918		Canadian Infantry	Canadian		VIMY MEMORIAL	
CLARK, WILLIAM	Corporal	153574	08/10/1918		Canadian Infantry	Canadian		VIMY MEMORIAL	
CRAIGEN, CHARLES	Corporal	738392	08/08/1918		Canadian Infantry	Canadian		VIMY MEMORIAL	
LEDINGHAM, GEORGE HERBERT	Corporal	859287	01/10/1918	31	Canadian Infantry	Canadian		VIMY MEMORIAL	
LYDIARD, GEORGE GILMOUR	Corporal	151036	08/10/1918	24	Canadian Infantry	Canadian		VIMY MEMORIAL	
MARTINDALE, JOHN MARK DERWENT	Corporal	420844	04/10/1918	31	Canadian Infantry	Canadian		VIMY MEMORIAL	
REID, DONALD	Corporal	421067	08/10/1918		Canadian Infantry	Canadian		VIMY MEMORIAL	
WEAKLEY, H	Corporal	153091	21/09/1918		Canadian Infantry	Canadian		VIMY MEMORIAL	

ATTACHMENT #5

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT

Army Form W. 3372.

GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.

COMMUNE :-TILLOY REPORT No. 1 SCHEDULE No. 10c.
 PLACE OF BURIAL CANADA CEMETERY, TILLOY-LES-CAMBRAI
 Map Reference 51a.S.21.b.3.9.

Major.

The following are buried here:—

Regiment	No.	Name	Rank and Initials	Date of Death	Cross Erected or G. R. U'd.	Plot, Row and Grave
PLOT .2.	ROW "C"	(continued)				
52/CANADIANS	2379279	HUNTER	PTE. J. R.	12.10.18	✓ ALL	Gr. 18
58/ do	3031083	SKELLY	PTE. J.	30/9/18	✓ CROSSES	19
do	3030745	BARLOW X	H. W.	1.10.18	✓ ERECTED	20
do	754278	ENSWORTH	C. N.	2/10/18	✓ C.C.N./L.S./17578	21
do	3030926	FOX	PTE. H.	1.10.18	✓ C.C.N./L.S./17567	22
do	124566	DENT	F.	"	✓	23
do	3107076	MURPHY	PTE. J.	"	✓	24
52/ do	141248	HUTCHEON	PTE. A. W.	"	✓	25
58/ do		UNKNOWN		"	✓	26
52/ do	2378433	MOHLER	PTE. J. W.	"	✓	27
58/ do	727289	DOUPE	PTE. W. I.	2/ "	✓ C.C.N./L.S./20452	28
do	3106747	MARTELLE	PTE. E.	"	✓	29
do	225229	MITCHELL	PTE. R. W.	"	✓	30
do	453642	QUANCE	PTE. A. T.	"	✓	31
43/ do		UNKNOWN	CPL.	"	✓	32
58/ do	451054	BATCHELOR X	PTE. F. D.	1.10.18	✓ C.C.N./L.S./17568	33
do	2265658	LARICK	PTE. G. W.	"	✓	34

ENTERED 5-11-20

SLIPS CHECKED. Aug 3-11-20

(6 31 5) W1163-P133 45,000 10/17 HWV(P117) Forms W3372/2
 141-1908 70,000 4/18

ATTACHMENT #6

This “*Reporting and Review*” attachment is provided to assist all parties in the submission of an investigative report related to the identification of the burial location, or headstone markings, of a member of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) during the Great War 1914-1921. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) receives a copy of this report in the event they wish to make changes to the commemoration details. In order to alter the records, the CWGC has set out their criteria for the procedure and submission of cases for review, as detailed below. The CWGC is under no obligation to make changes based on a report.

Procedure:	Guideline Criteria for Submission:
All new identification cases need to be assessed in the first instance by the Canadian Agency (CA) and submissions should go to their office directly. After an initial assessment, if the Agency feels that the case is compelling, they will then pass all the documentation to the Commemorations Team at the Commission's Head Office. Head Office will then review the case and inform the CA of their findings. The Canadian authorities will then decide whether or not any changes to the arrangements for commemoration are required and inform the Commission accordingly.	Cases need to present clear and convincing evidence to prove the identity of a casualty and must not be based on assumption or speculation. The Commission's Commemoration Team will also consider whether the findings of a better informed contemporary investigation are being revisited and if there is any new evidence to consider. By way of example, it is unlikely that the Commission would support a revision of the arrangements for the commemoration where it is apparent that no new evidence is being presented and, a better informed previous decision is being revisited some 100 years later.

The following have participated in the preparation, review and submission of this report on a voluntary basis. Those noted below have read the investigative report and compared it to the criteria set out by the CWGC, as a guiding principle, and have agreed to have their name included as part of the review team. The CWGC may contact any of the reviewers at the e-mail address provided below.

Name	Affiliation	E-mail	Contribution
Richard Laughton	Private Researcher LMC Great War Research Company	rlaughton@laughton.ca	Report Author
			Reviewer
			Reviewer
			Reviewer
			Reviewer